

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 078068  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/C:DWCOX: CMM  
APPROVED BY ARA:FJMCNEIL  
ARA/AND:MRBARNEBEY  
NSC:RPASTOR .  
S/S-S:LREDDY (PHONE)  
ARA:RGARELLAND

-----012124 281257Z /43

P 281240Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 078068

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, CO (TURBAY AYALA, JULIO CESAR)

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TURBAY VISIT TO U.S. AND REQUEST TO  
SEE PRESIDENT CARTER

1. COLOMBIA DESK OFFICER COX RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL ON  
MARCH 20 FROM A DR. CIRO MONTANEZ, WHO SAID HE IS MEDICAL  
DOCTOR PRACTICING IN WASHINGTON D.C. AREA AND THAT HE HAD  
BEEN ASKED BY LIBERAL PARTY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE JULIO  
CESAR TURBAY TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING LOW-KEY INQUIRY IN  
WASHINGTON: TURBAY IS SAID TO BE THINKING OF A TRIP TO  
THE U.S. PRIOR TO THE JUNE 4 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. HE  
WOULD VISIT WASHINGTON, NEW YORK, AND POSSIBLY CHICAGO AND  
MEET WITH COLOMBIAN OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE CITIZENS, AND  
POSSIBLY WITH U.S. BUSINESS CIRCLES WITH INTERESTS IN  
COLOMBIA. HE ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR TURBAY TO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 078068

MEET BRIEFLY WITH PRESIDENT CARTER DURING THE VISIT.

2. COX SAID THAT OF COURSE TURBAY IS WELCOME TO MAKE A  
PRIVATE VISIT TO THE U.S., AND THAT THE USG WOULD HELP  
OUT AS IT FEASIBLY COULD. COX SAID QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE  
MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD OBVIOUSLY HAVE TO BE  
REFERRED TO HIGHER AUTHORITIES, AND THAT ONE QUESTION

WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED BEFOREHAND WOULD BE  
WHETHER A TURBAY MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE

CONSIDERED AS U.S. INTERFERENCE IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS  
IN COLOMBIA. MONTANEZ DISMISSED SUCH A CONSID-  
ERATION BY SAYING THAT TURBAY IS GOING TO WIN BY A  
LANDSLIDE IN THE JUNE ELECTION, SO THAT THERE WOULD  
(ALLEGEDLY) BE NO PROBLEM IN THAT REGARD.

3. FYI. AS A MATTER OF POLICY THE PRESIDENT DOES NOT  
RECEIVE OPPOSITION LEADERS OR CANDIDATES FOR POLITICAL  
OFFICE. FURTHER, THE PRESIDENT'S BUSY SCHEDULE WOULD  
NOT PERMIT SUCH A MEETING. IN ADDITION, WE BELIEVE THAT  
A PRESIDENTIAL MEETING WITH TURBAY BEFORE THE ELECTIONS  
WOULD INDEED BE INTERPRETED IN COLOMBIA AS INTERFERENCE  
IN COLOMBIAN POLITICS, AND WE WOULD NOT RECOMMEND IT.

4. COX INFORMED AMBASSADOR BARCO ABOUT THE CALL FROM  
MONTANEZ ON MARCH 21. BARCO SAID MONTANEZ IS A CLOSE  
PERSONAL FRIEND OF TURBAY, AND WAS TURBAY'S PERSONAL  
PHYSICIAN WHEN THE LATTER SERVED AS AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EVEN THOUGH THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD  
NOT RECEIVE TURBAY, DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S  
COMMENTS ON THIS APPROACH BY MONTANEZ, AND ANY RECOMMEN-  
DATIONS EMBASSY MAY HAVE REGARDING POSSIBILITY OF MEETING  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 078068

BETWEEN TURBAY AND SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND NSC  
REPRESENTATIVE. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE078068  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DWCOX: CMM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780134-0511  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780318/aaaaaota.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 283dfebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 jul 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3181381  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** POSSIBLE TURBAY VISIT TO U.S. AND REQUEST TO SEE PRESIDENT CARTER  
**TAGS:** OVIP, CO, (TURBAY AYALA, JULIO CESAR)  
**To:** BOGOTA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/283dfebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014